



To: District Leaders

From: Rebecca Estes, Director Leadership and Innovation

Date: May 22, 2020

Subject: **2021 Indiana Teacher of the Year Program Update**

Each year, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) conducts the Teacher of the Year Program to recognize outstanding classroom teachers from across the state. The program's mission is to inspire, rejuvenate, and celebrate the teaching profession. Traditionally, one educator is chosen to represent Indiana teachers at the national level, and IDOE supports a year of service allowing the educators to remain in the classroom, while supporting release time to participate in valuable opportunities as a voice for Indiana teachers.

During this time of uncertainty and instability, Indiana teachers are once again a force supporting, guiding, and educating Hoosier students. Therefore, Dr. McCormick is recognizing all Indiana teachers as champions who have proven, once again, they will do whatever it takes to address the academic, emotional, and behavioral well-being of Indiana students and families.

IDOE is proud to recognize ALL Indiana teachers collectively as 2021 Teacher of the Year.

Previously, district leaders were given the [opportunity](#) to endorse multiple local nominees for statewide consideration. This will resume with the 2022 Indiana Teacher of the Year nomination process. Districts will be allowed to honor and endorse their 2021 and 2022 Teachers of the Year for the statewide recognition process at the conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year.

Questions can be directed to [Rebecca Estes](#).